Timeline for Psychologists’ Prescriptive Authority: New Mexico

1990
The American Psychological Association (APA) and its Council of Representatives affirm a goal of seeking prescriptive authority for psychologists with appropriate post doctoral training.

1992 – 2002
The Department of Defense launches a psychologist demonstration project in which 10 psychologists are trained to prescribe. Results from a GAO and a Vector report are most positive.

May, 1999
The Southwestern Institute for the Advancement of Psychotherapy begins a post doctoral program in psychopharmacology for psychologists in conjunction with New Mexico State University with 12 students.

The program acronym is SIAP/NMSU. The website is www.siaprxp.com. Students receive Professional Development credit.

April, 2001
11 students matriculate with certificates of professional development credit from New Mexico State University. Students are primarily from New Mexico and a few are from Arizona.

March, 2001
An RxP Bill passes in the New Mexico House and makes it to the Senate floor but clock runs out before the Bill is called up.

February, 2002
House Bill 451 passes through the New Mexico House and Senate.

March 5, 2002
After a second debate in his office, Governor Johnson signs the RxP Bill into law: the first prescriptive authority law for psychologists in the nation.

June, 2002
Second iteration of SIAP/NMSU begins with 24 students.

December 12, 2004
18 students complete the second iteration two year 450-hour academic coursework.

February, 2005
First two psychologists in New Mexico receive conditional licenses to prescribe (Mario Marquez, Ph.D., and Elaine LeVine, Ph.D.)
June 11, 2005  
Third iteration of SIAP/NMSU students begins with 19 students, primarily from New Mexico, but also Illinois, Florida, and California.

February 2007  
First Restricted Unconditional License to Prescribe, Elaine LeVine, Ph. D., #0001.

May, 2007  
16 students complete the third iteration two year 450-hour academic coursework

January, 2008  
Fourth iteration of SIAP/NMSU students begins with 20 students, which now leads to an interdisciplinary postdoctoral Masters Degree. The students are primarily from New Mexico, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Utah, Washington DC, North Dakota and Vancouver, Canada.

May 2008  
Fifth iteration of 22 psychologists from the Netherlands begins classes.

December, 2008  
16 students complete the fourth iteration two year 450-hour academic coursework

March 1-31, 2010  
20 Dutch psychologist students come to Las Cruces for executive track practicum.

July 2010  
18 Dutch psychologists receive an Interdisciplinary Masters Degree in Education with specialization in psychopharmacology.

September 2010  
The sixth iteration of SIAP/NMSU classes begins.

21 students enrolled in the Masters degree, from New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, Canada and Guam.

November 2010  
The NMSU Interdisciplinary Masters for psychologists (with administration though the SIAP) was among the first two programs to be accredited through a designation procedure by the American Psychological Association as meeting the standards of competence in training.

Fall 2012  
Will begin a seventh iteration for a European cohort. Most of the classes are in distance education format. Live classes will be housed in the Netherlands, but would be open to students from other countries that could come to the Netherlands from underserved areas such as India, Burma, and Kuwait.
Fall 2012

Will begin an eighth iteration of classes for New Mexico for the United States’ psychologists, employing advanced distance education technology.

To date:

A total of 118 psychologists from the United States, Canada, and the Netherlands have enrolled in the New Mexico training program.

98 students from the United States enrolled in the SIAP/NMSU program.

There are 33 prescribing psychologists currently licensed under the New Mexico Law. 23 of them were trained through SIAP/NMSU.

21 SIAP/NMSU students are practicing prescribing psychologists in New Mexico.

4 psychologists who completed different programs have moved to New Mexico and are licensed as prescribing psychologists.

2 SIAP/NMSU students are using their NM license to prescribe in the military and for the Indian Health Service outside of New Mexico.